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The book as a whole is conspicuous for the number of reprints and compilations included, and the reviewer is inclined to wonder whether more space might not have been used to advantage for the printing of unpublished documents. Most of the material presented, however, is source material; some of it is rather inaccessible in its original form; and the value of all is greatly enhanced by annotations. In addition to the papers already noted, the volume contains an account of the ninth biennial meeting of the State Historical Society of South Dakota, a list of the society's members, annual reviews of the progress of the state in 1918 and 1919, and a series of articles about some of the state's activities during the World War.

B. L. H.

*Swedish Contributions to American National Life, 1638-1921.*

By AMANDUS JOHNSON, PH.D. (New York, Committee of the Swedish Section of America's Making, Inc., 1921. 64 p.)

*Norwegian Immigrant Contributions to America's Making.*

Edited by HARRY SUNDBY-HANSEN (New York, 1921. 170 p.)

In these two publications an attempt is made to assess the contributions made by the Norwegian and Swedish elements to American development. The pamphlets were put out in connection with the "America's Making exhibit and festival in New York, October 29 to November 12, 1921," and obviously are designed to serve a popular educational purpose.

Dr. Johnson is an authority on the history of the Swedish colony on the Delaware and at present is preparing a four-volume study of the Swedish element in the United States. The pamphlet under review represents an attempt to condense a very large subject into the limits of a brief sketch. The result is a somewhat ill-organized and unevenly balanced account. It is nevertheless a useful summary and should serve as a suggestive introduction. A brief general statement on "History and Colonization" with which the book opens contains only two paragraphs on nineteenth-century Swedish immigration. This is followed by an interesting analysis of the "characteristics of the Swedes." Then follow statements of the contributions of the Swedes to various

phases of American development. Naturally a prominent position is given to agriculture and the author states that Swedes in Minnesota have more than two million acres under cultivation. A section on inventions describes the work of John Ericsson, Admiral John A. Dahlgren, and others. The participation of Swedes in American business life is then summarized. Religious and educational contributions are discussed in considerable detail. There are also sections on gymnastics, mechano-therapy, manual training, music, the fine arts, and politics. As one purpose of the publication is to bring out the loyalty of Swedish-Americans to American institutions, considerable attention is given to their participation in American wars. The booklet as a whole tells an interesting and important story of how the Swedes have played their part in the making of America.

The book on Norwegian immigrant contributions is a coöperative work. In a series of twelve chapters Norwegian-American achievements in various large fields of activity are set forth. With a few notable exceptions these chapters bear the marks of hasty preparation and inadequate research. The editor desired short chapters by Norwegian-American writers, and they had to be written hurriedly and in conformity with the popular purpose of the publication. If the separate chapters are light and contribute very few new facts, the volume as a whole does make a worth-while synthesis and will undoubtedly serve, as its editor hopes, "to stimulate an interest in the study of the material and intellectual part Norwegian immigrants and their descendants have played in the upbuilding of America."

In one chapter the editor, Mr. Sundby-Hansen, discusses "Contributions to Industry" with perhaps too much attention to biographical data and an inadequate consideration of the industrial contributions of the element as a whole. Mr. N. A. Grevstad hardly glances beneath the surface in his chapter on "Participation in American Politics." Professor Gisle Bothne of the University of Minnesota surveys concisely the Norwegian-American church and educational work. Mr. O. P. B. Jacobson writes briefly but informingly on "Contributions to Agriculture." Professor Julius Olson, with a broad knowledge of the subject, presents a short review of "Literature and the Press." An inter-

esting account by Mr. Carl G. Hansen of Minneapolis deals with "Contributions to Sports." Professor George T. Flom in his chapter on "Discovery and Immigration" devotes three paragraphs to nineteenth-century immigration. "To follow the westward movement of Norwegian settlement," he writes, "would be to follow the ever moving line of the frontier." In other chapters attention is given to Norwegian immigrant contributions in the fields of the arts and sciences, humanitarian work, shipping, and the fishing industry. The part played by people of Norwegian blood in American wars is the subject of a compact and valuable summary.

T. C. B.

*American Samplers.* By ETHEL STANWOOD BOLTON and EVA JOHNSTON COE. (Boston, The Massachusetts Society of the Colonial Dames of America, 1921. viii, 416 p. Illustrations.)

The temptation in reviewing this volume on *American Samplers* is to quote from the numberless quaint rhymes or to describe the still quainter scenes embroidered on the "exemplars" of our ancestors, for in these lighter matters there is much to interest and amuse the reader. But happily the book has a more serious side. Historical sketches are included for the samplers of every period, and there are chapters on the sampler verse, on stitches and patterns, and on schools for girls. Though the periods which form the basis of the treatment are arbitrary, the authors explain that convenience alone accounts for this choice of dates, for fads in sampler-making were no respecters of century marks.

The seventeenth-century sampler was more elaborate than that of the eighteenth and nineteenth. It served still the purpose for which the sampler came into existence, namely, to supply embroidery patterns. Hence it was worked by grown women as well as by girls. By the third decade of the eighteenth century a new kind of sampler was in vogue, in part growing out of conditions in the New World. It became a set task for young girls, and in place of intricate patterns of elaborate workmanship, it consisted of "little alphabets, numbers, and verses, separated by rows of extremely debased patterns." The early nineteenth century was the heyday of the American sampler, entirely freed from